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INFO GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, NSAE 00, L 03, INR 07, P 04

CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 35, SAL 01, AID 30, IO 21, RSR 01, SAH 03,

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Dzenberg DATE 10/6/81
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

R 211035Z AUG 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5000
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 38491
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2213

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 3625

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: SAIGON A-10.

SUBJECT: OVERSEAS CHINESE SUPPORT FOR THIEU/KY.

1. RECENT REMARKS OF TWO MEMBERS LOCAL CHINESE COMMUNITY, BOTH OF WHOM REPRESENT THIEU/KY SLATE IN CHOLON, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INSIGHT

(1)

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INTO REASONS FOR LOCAL CHINESE SUPPORT OF THIEU/KY TICKET.
FOLLOWING POINTS WERE BROUGHT OUT IN CONVERSATION WITH TRIEU SEN HOACH, MEMBER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND CANDIDATE FOR UPPER HOUSE ON NEW SLATE 29, AND VAN DIEN QUANG, SAIGON CITY COUNCILLOR AND PROBABLE CANDIDATE FOR LOWER HOUSE.
A. THE CHINESE ARE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT GOVERNMENTAL CHANGE. THEY HAVE LEARNED HOW TO DEAL WITH HIS GOVERNMENT, AND KNOW THAT WITH

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ANY NEW GOVERNMENT THERE WOULD INEVITABLY BE CHANGES AND, AT THE VERY LEAST, A PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY.
B. CORRUPTION WOULD BE WORSE WITH A NEW GOVERNMENT-IT ALWAYS IS WITH A NEW REGIME.
C. TRAN VAN HUONG IS LIKED AND RESPECTED IN THE CHINESE COMMUNITY BUT NOT MANY CHINESE WILL VOTE FOR HIM BECAUSE HE HAS NOT SAID MUCH ABOUT WHAT HE WOULD DO FOR THE CHINESE COMMUNITY, AND AS HE WAS UNABLE TO CONTROL THE MILITARY WHEN HE WAS IN POWER BEFORE, HE PRESUMABLY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO AGAIN.
D. GENERAL THIEU IS DEFINITELY IN FAVOR OF KY'S POLICY OF RETURNING THE CONGREGATION PROPERTIES TO CHINESE CONTROL. HOACH SAID THAT THIEU HAD ASSURED HIM RECENTLY THAT THE PROPERTIES WOULD BE RETURNED AFTER THE ELECTION.

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2. THIS IS THE FIRST RELATIVELY AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED TO EFFECT THAT THIEU HAS ENDORSED KY'S COMMITMENT TO RETURN CONGREGATION PROPERTIES TO CHINESE CONTROL. TO DATE THIS HAS NOT BEEN PUBLICLY STATED BY THIEU, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE IS NOW SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT. MORE THAN A WEEK AGO THE LOCAL CHINESE PRESS BEGAN TO PUBLICIZE THIEU'S PLANS TO VISIT CHINESE COMMUNITY LEADERS AT THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TOWARD

THE END OF THE MONTH. MRS. THIEU HAS CONTINUED HER PUBLIC APPEARANCES WITH A CEREMONY FOR THE GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM OF THE CANTONESE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.
3.1 THE FOREGOING SERVES TO REINFORCE OUR BELIEF THAT THE LARGE MAJORITY OF THE CHINESE VOTE WILL GO TO THIEU AND KY (REF. AIRGRAM).
GP-3. BUNKER

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